

January 17, 2006

BY HAND-DELIVERY

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Proposed Arrearage Management Program

D.T.E. 05-86

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

Enclosed on behalf of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil ("Unitil"), please find the original and ten (10) copies of revisions to Unitil's proposed Arrearage Management Program, in compliance with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy's ("Department") Order Opening Investigation issued in the above-referenced docket on December 1, 2005. The revisions are indicated in redline.

Unitil has made two revisions to the language in its proposal: First, Unitil has added language to the Program Description section indicating that the payment arrangement offered to an eligible customer will be mutually agreed to between Unitil and the fuel assistance program agencies. In no event will the payment arrangement be less than the statutory minimum of four months, and a down payment will not be required. Second, Unitil has modified the Eligibility Criteria to provide that a customer must either agree to participate in a Unitil Energy Efficiency program, or provide documentation of past participation in such a program, unless the fuel assistance program agency, in consultation with Unitil, determines that efficiency measures would not be cost effective. These changes are indicated in the attached redlined version of Unitil's proposed Arrearage Management Program.

Gary Epler Senior Counsel

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Phone: 603-773-6440 Fax: 603-773-6640 Email: epler@unitil.com Unitil would also like to provide clarification on two points regarding its proposal:

- 1. Unitil is <u>increasing</u> the total arrearage forgiveness amounts available per customer participant from a total of \$750 per customer in the pilot program approved by the Department in D.T.E. 05-29, to \$600 <u>per year/per customer</u>, for a period of up to three years, or a total of \$1800 per customer in the attached proposal.
- 2. Unitil confirms that it will have its program in operation no later than February 28, 2006.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question concerning this filing.

Lla

✓ Gary Epler

cc: Elizabeth Cellucci, Senior Counsel
Joseph Rogers, Assistant Attorney General
Jerrold Oppenheim, Esq.